



## William A. Konefes

January 10, 1964 - June 8, 2018

It is with great sadness that the family of Bill Konefes announces his unexpected passing on Friday, June 8, 2018. He was born William Albert Konefes in Chicago, Illinois on January 10, 1964 to Albert and Constance Konefes. Bill will be lovingly remembered by his wife of 30 years, Lynette; his children, Shenan (David) Deere, Brayden (Nancy) Howes; and his grandsons, Connor and Roman. He will also be fondly remembered by his mother, Constance; his siblings, David (Bozena), Denise (John) Ulaszek and Michael (Sheila), along with numerous nieces and nephews, and Ana and Zach Williams.

Bill was preceded in death by his father, Albert; and his father-in-law, Cleon Rhodehouse.

He was a strong believer in education and received his Bachelor's Degree in Mechanical Engineering from Illinois Institute of Technology, a Master's in Business Administration from Oklahoma State University and was his dissertation away from receiving a PhD in Business.

He joined the Navy as a Commissioned Officer in 1986 and served as a Nuclear Submarine Officer for 5 years active duty, and 16 years in the Reserves, retiring as a Lieutenant Commander.

Bill was a long time member of the Oklahoma Industrial Energy Consumers Group. The OIEC leaned heavily on Bill's expertise in power plant operations. He served many years on the executive committee leading efforts to insure reliable and efficient energy services in the power industry.

Bill was a member of the Powder River Basin Coal Users Group, where he served 2 years as Vice Chairman and 2 years as Chairman of the Board of Directors. The PRB Coal Users Group is the world's largest and premier not-for-profit group helping those who choose to use sub-bituminous coals to do so safely and efficiently. His legacy of educating others and peer-to-peer sharing will echo throughout power plants and paper mills forever.

Bill was a 27 year employee of Georgia Pacific. He served in a variety of roles during his tenure the last 12 years being Power Plant Superintendent; a role that has oversight of the mill's power plant operations. He was also a member of the site leadership team and was known for volunteering and lending support to corporate task forces and power industry groups to advance and improve the power industry. Bill was a friend and team member who was admirably known as a unique and brilliant engineer. He was a humble leader who sought recognition for others, not himself. He was a man who demonstrated unquestionable and absolute commitment to always doing the right thing. The outpouring of support from the GP family has left no doubt that he was loved by many and will be greatly missed.

Bill had a huge passion for ultra trail running. He finished three 50 mile races and most recently he was selected in the lottery for the Leadville Trail 100 miler in Colorado. "Race across the sky" Bill, I'll love you forever.

Public viewing for Bill will be from 9am-8pm, Wednesday, June 13, 2018 at Cornerstone Funeral Home with the family being at the funeral home to greet friends from 2-8pm.

Funeral services celebrating Bill's life will be at 2:30pm, Thursday, June 14, 2018 at Boulevard Christian Church with Minister Steve Moss and Elder Ernie Franklin officiating.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 13. 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Cornerstone Funeral Home & Crematory  
1830 North York Street  
Muskogee, OK 74403  
(918) 682-1500

## Family Visitation

JUN 13. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Cornerstone Funeral Home & Crematory  
1830 North York Street  
Muskogee, OK 74403  
(918) 682-1500

## Service

JUN 14. 2:30 PM (CT)

Boulevard Christian Church  
1700 W. Shawnee  
Muskogee, OK 74401

# Tribute Wall



“ *William A. Konefes*

October 23, 2023 at 09:38 AM



“ *To my Dearest sister Lynette, I'm so glad we were able to come visit and stay a few days with you and bill recently he was a great brother in law and husband and father to Brayden and shenan. He will be truly missed !! And to bill have fun running all those trails in heaven !!! We love you and miss you dearly!! Take care tell we meet again. Love Kara and Shane England and family!!*



**Kara England** - June 17, 2018 at 09:42 PM



“ *I met Bill at an industry conference a few months ago. His friendliness, and genuine personality were one of the highlights of the conference for me. He will be deeply missed by all.*

**JM** - June 15, 2018 at 09:51 AM



“ *We were saddened and shocked to hear of Bill's passing. Our heartfelt condolences to the entire Konefes family. You are all in our prayers.*

*Austin & Barbara Kastner*

**Austin and Barbara Kastner** - June 14, 2018 at 04:30 PM

SH

“ I had the pleasure and privilege to work with Bill for several years prior to retirement. I was so pleased to hear of his return to Muskogee Mill because he was a man of great competency and more importantly, integrity.

So sorry to hear of his passing, it is a great loss for the Muskogee Mill Team, our community and his many friends. My condolences and prayers to family.

Stan Hiner

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**Stan Hiner** - June 14, 2018 at 01:22 PM

KS

“ It was a great honor to work with Bill for so many years at the Muskogee Mill. His honor and integrity were never questioned. He was so sincere in his concern for all those around him, he always had time to say hello and ask how your day was going. He will be missed more than we can say. Prayers to the family for God's comfort during this most difficult time. Kerry Saladiner



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**Kerry Saladiner** - June 14, 2018 at 10:10 AM

CS

“ Cullum Construction Services purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of William A. Konefes.



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**Cullum Construction Services** - June 14, 2018 at 07:11 AM

TJ

“ *Sending deepest condolences to Bill's family. He was a great man and will be dearly missed*  
*Paula and Tom Johnston*

tom and paula johnston - June 13, 2018 at 07:38 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of William A. Konefes.*



June 13, 2018 at 04:00 PM

ST

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Steve - June 13, 2018 at 02:16 PM

JP

“ *Jim Price lit a candle in memory of William A. Konefes*



Jim Price - June 13, 2018 at 01:03 PM

JP

*I worked with Bill for many years on energy matters through the OIEC, and his style and leadership will be missed. My deepest sympathy to his family. What a great person.*

**Jim Price** - June 13, 2018 at 01:04 PM

RB

*I had the honor of working with Bill and am deeply saddened to hear of his passing. My prayers go out to the MSK team. Very sad to learn of this. RIP my friend*

**Rick Butterfield** - June 13, 2018 at 08:48 PM

JB

*So sorry to hear of Bill passing. We are praying for his family. He was such a kind man. Dan and Judy Buckmaster*

**Judy Buckmaster** - June 14, 2018 at 12:06 PM

GR

“ GW and Kayla Richerson purchased the *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* for the family of William A. Konefes.



**GW and Kayla Richerson** - June 13, 2018 at 09:31 AM



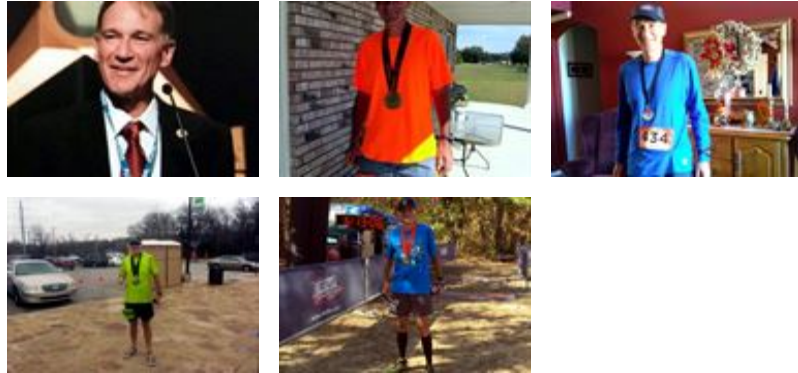
“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of William A. Konefes.



June 13, 2018 at 08:23 AM



“ 81 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



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**Cornerstone Funeral Home and Crematory** - June 12, 2018 at 10:26 PM



“ *Mel & Pily Post purchased the Sweet Tenderness for the family of William A. Konefes.*



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**Mel & Pily Post** - June 12, 2018 at 09:21 PM

BS

“ Dear Lynette and Family - Condolences to all. Bill will be missed by many and especially by his loving family. He was a wonderful cousin and I will always have great memories of all the holidays we spent together when we were kids (New Years Day in Wheeling, IL; Easter at Dorothy's in Arlington Heights, Thanksgiving in Freeport and Christmas Day on Thorndale). It was always fun to hang out with Bill, Dave, Denise and Mike! Plus all the memories at Middle Loon Lake! I taught him how to climb trees and ropes and he told me one time that his gym teacher was amazed that he was one of the only kids that could shimmy up a rope with ease. He was a wonderful person. Love to you! Hugs! Betty, Mike and Dean Sopcic



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**betty sopcic** - June 12, 2018 at 07:14 PM

SF

“ Sam Frazier lit a candle in memory of William A. Konefes



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**Sam Frazier** - June 12, 2018 at 05:47 PM



“ Garden of Serenity Bouquet was purchased for the family of William A. Konefes.



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June 12, 2018 at 12:48 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of William A. Konefes.*



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June 12, 2018 at 12:43 PM



“ *I was truly saddened to hear of bills passing. I worked with bill in green bay and when my wife gave birth to our first child bill made sure flowers were delivered to the house for her. I remember going into bills office and he would talk about how much he loved Chicago , rc cola or the band the ramones just the simple things. bill you will be missed don vogel*

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**don vogel** - June 11, 2018 at 10:57 PM



“ *I had the absolute pleasure of working with Bill through the PRB Coal Users' Group. He worked tirelessly behind the scenes, as well through his very public leadership positions. Through it all you could see he was a sincere servant leader ... doing all he could, where he could, for good. Bill and I also connected personally, as we frequently discussed running. He would light up when he talked about his latest running event or training plans. It clearly was his passion. He was a true friend that I will miss professionally and personally.*

*My heartfelt sympathy goes to the family. May the Lord comfort you at this difficult time. "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted" (Jesus' words), Matthew 5:4*

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**Greg** - June 11, 2018 at 08:50 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of William A. Konefes.*



June 11, 2018 at 08:40 PM



“ *Ellen, Ruthie & Rosemary purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of William A. Konefes.*



**Ellen, Ruthie & Rosemary** - June 11, 2018 at 08:03 PM



“ *Paula & Tom Johnston and Phyllis & Russ Slifer purchased the Simply Chic Mixed Plant Basket for the family of William A. Konefes.*



**Paula & Tom Johnston and Phyllis & Russ Slifer** - June 11, 2018 at 04:01 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of William A. Konefes.*



June 11, 2018 at 02:00 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of William A. Konefes.*



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June 11, 2018 at 01:37 PM



“ *Mary and Pete Secker purchased the Enduring G race for the family of William A. Konefes.*



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**Mary and Pete Secker** - June 11, 2018 at 12:15 PM



“ *So shocked to hear about my cousin, Bill. Too young to be taken. Admittedly, I didn't know Bill that well as an adult, but whenever we had interactions, his maturity and professionalism always stood out. My wife, Mary, occasionally follows Lynette's comments on facebook and it's obvious how close and loving he was to his family and how loving Lynette is to him. In Lynette's and the family's time of grief, we hope that the memories and celebration of their life together gives them the comfort needed to get through this. We are so sorry for you loss. -Pete and Mary Secker*

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**Peter Secker** - June 11, 2018 at 11:31 AM

CH

“ I worked with Bill on several projects. He always had a smile, a kind word, and appreciated the help. He will be missed. My thoughts and prayers are with family, friends, and co-workers.



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**Chad Harrod** - June 11, 2018 at 10:34 AM

BT

“ Bill, known for his integrity and diligent willingness to help, was a wonderfully positive and energetic man. He had the most amazing courageous strength and tenacity that every single person who ever met him could feel. With an infectious attitude Bill was a great leader, mentor, friend, husband, father, a wonderful person who we are thankful to have touched our life. Your memories Bill are our treasures forever.

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**Bob Taylor** - June 09, 2018 at 02:28 PM

BT

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Bob Taylor** - June 09, 2018 at 02:24 PM

KA

“ Kimberly Arellano purchased the A New Sunrise Spray for the family of William A. Konefes.



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**Kimberly Arellano** - June 09, 2018 at 12:51 PM

SC

“ I worked with Bill many years in Green Bay, he was always a gentleman and a professional. One time he gave a ride home to my wife and I from the airport in the middle of a cold winter night, even though it was completely the wrong way for him to go home. He insisted we not use a taxi. Always a nice guy. I missed him when he left. We often shared memories of serving in the Navy. May God bless your family.  
Steve and Tina Cotter

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**Steve Cotter** - June 09, 2018 at 07:39 AM

JR

“ Thoughts and prayers for Bill's family, we will be keeping you all in our prayers. Bill was a wonderful, brilliant man that will truly be missed.

*Jeff and Pam Reganall*

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**Jeff and Pam Reganall** - June 08, 2018 at 11:11 PM

JR

“ *Jeff And Pam Reganall lit a candle in memory of William A. Konefes*



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**Jeff and Pam Reganall** - June 08, 2018 at 11:08 PM